

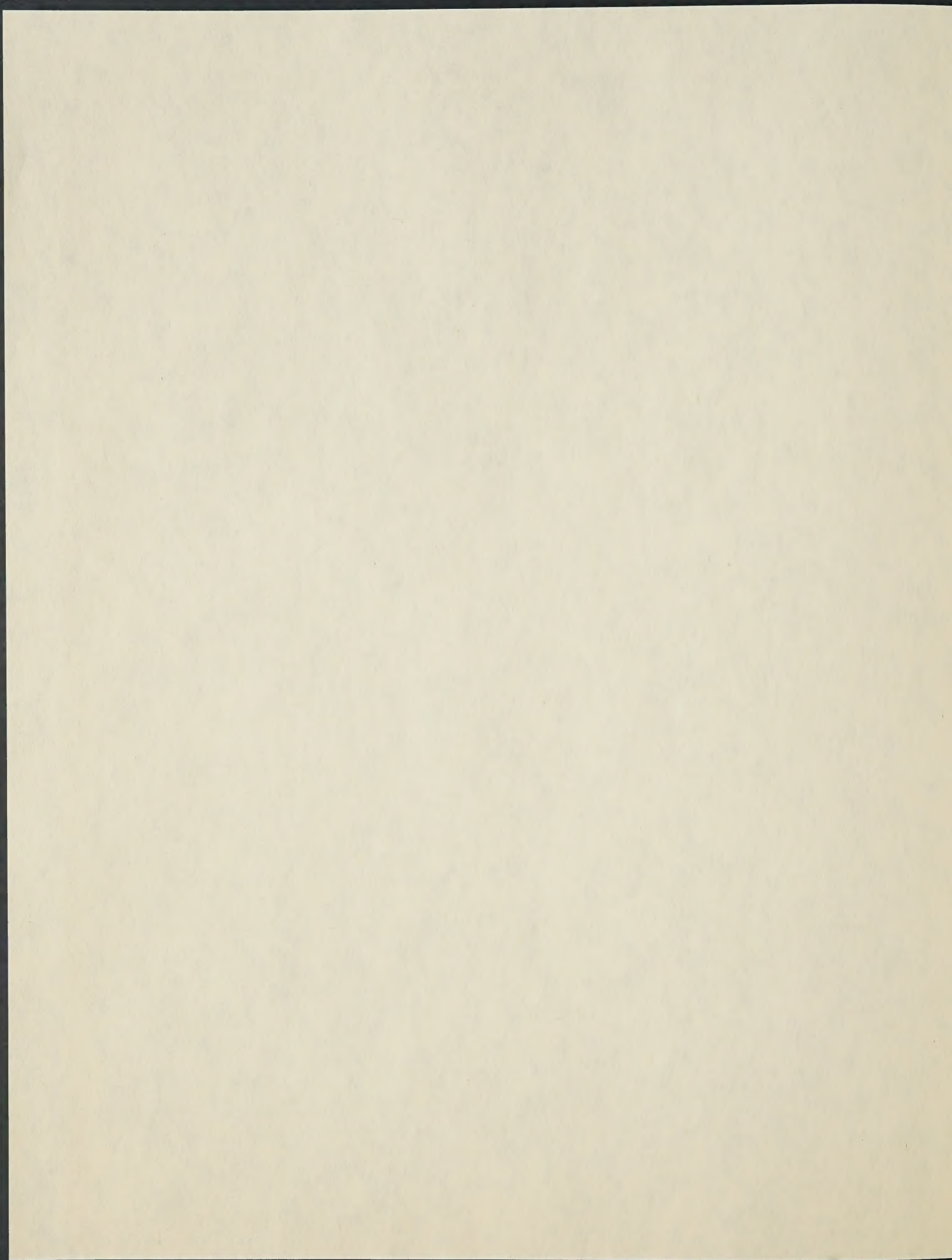
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Ellis, C F

September 1917

.....Lieutenant.
67th O.S. Depot Battery CFA., CEF.



In any further
correspondence on
this subject please
quote Number and
Date of this Com-
munication.

No.

Sep. 18th 1917

From Lieut. C.F. Elliott, 67th Battery CFA., CEF.

Petawawa Camp, Ont.

To Sir Robert Falconer, President University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir Robert:-

This letter is based upon unofficial information that came to me a short time ago, to the effect that Mr. Carruthers is to be appointed O.C. of the 67th Battery. Whether this is true or not, I feel so strongly in the matter that the mere possibility of it is sufficient.

I have been with the Battery since the first of the year, that is some eight months. I have seen two drafts go Overseas, new men recruited and trained under Mr. Wright, under Captain Orde for about two months, myself for about one month and Mr. Cawley for about six weeks. Mr. Cawley in the six weeks that he has been with us has done more to bring the Battery to the high state of proficiency that it is now in than any of the others. I say this purely from a Battery standpoint and am firmly convinced of its accuracy.

Mr. Cawley is to be supplanted by Mr. Carruthers, a man who has never been at the front, a man who has taken only theoretical work at Kingston, and a man who, when he arrives at Camp will find the Officers of the Brigade antagonistic to him, and what is more important, the men of the Battery will not receive him favorably.

Why will the men not receive him favorably? First because he is "persona non grata" to the Officers of this Brigade; Second because he is not a returned man; and Third because he has never had any practical Artillery experience.

I feel that the "esprit de corps" which exists in the Battery at present will be lost if Mr. Carruthers is appointed. Most of the other Batteries in Camp (some seventeen in all) are commanded by Overseas Officers or men who have risen from Subaltern ranks. I know of none that have had a home man placed as O.C. over the heads of the Battery Officers and I trust this will not be the exception.

Mr. Carruthers took the same Subaltern's course at Kingston as I did. On completion I entered the Artillery in the C.E.F. and have been actively with it ever since. Mr. Carruthers took the second course and that is all.

Under the circumstances, I cannot do otherwise than tender my resignation if he is appointed O.C. Permit me to add, Sir Robert, that this letter is the result not of hasty action but of deliberation, and written in the interests of the Battery and myself.

Yours very sincerely,

C.F. Elliott
.....Lieutenant.
67th O.S. Depot Battery CFA., CEF.

Elliott, C F

September 1917

September 12th, 1917

Lieutenant C. F. Elliott,

67th Battery,

Petawawa Camp, Ont.

Dear Mr. Elliott:

I do not know how the rumour got abroad that Mr. Carruthers was to be appointed to the command of No. 67 Battery. His name was mentioned last year but it has never come up since and I have no intention of sending it in as a recommendation in the present vacancy. I hope that when the military authorities definitely make the appointment it will be found to be satisfactory to the officers of the Battery.

Hoping that the Battery will still continue to have success,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.